## **Board of Commissioners of Adams County**

110 West Main Street West Union, Ohio 45693 Phone (937) 544-3286 Fax (937) 544-5992

Email - adamscocomm@cinci.rr.com

Justin Cooper Chairman Roger Rhonemus Vice-Chair Brian Baldridge Member

Chairman Julius Genachowski Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

June 21, 2011

Re: WT Docket 11-65

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

Adams County Ohio is located in southern Ohio, about an hour east of Cincinnati. The Ohio River borders our county to the South, and is a major driver in our economic success. Adams County is also well known for our abundant natural resources including limestone, wildlife, forests and farmland, as agriculture is one of the top industries with a rich history.

We are proud to have several major corporations as key investors in Adams County. For instance, General Electric operates a jet engine testing facility here, Dayton Power and Light has two electric generating plants along the Ohio River, and in the northern part of the county Hanson Aggregates has a large limestone facility. These are just a few examples of our proud partnerships with companies due to our geographic position in Ohio as well as our natural resources.

As county commissioners we are constantly working to promote Adams County as well as overall economic growth to the area. We hear a lot from businesses and consumers about the need for high speed internet access, and this is one reason we believe the merger between AT&T and T-Mobile will benefit this area greatly. Broadband is essential in today's global economy and it is critical for economic development. It is also essential for our county's residents and their quality of life, from education and tele-medicine, to job training programs to small business development.

AT&T's merger with T-Mobile will be very beneficial for rural areas that have up until now been left behind in the technological revolution resulting from broadband. The merger will extend the next generation of wireless broadband, 4G LTE, to over 97% of the U.S. population. This will enable many rural areas, including much of Adams County, to access the same kind of services, applications, and benefits that customers in large metropolitan areas receive.

We believe that the AT&T-T-Mobile merger will make Adams County and our community even stronger, and we ask you to work quickly to review and support this proposed merger.

Respectfully,

Justin Cooper Chairman oger Rhonemus Vice Chair Brian Baldridge Member

CC:

Commissioner Michael Copps Commissioner Robert McDowell Commissioner Mignon Clyburn Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker